



USDA TURKEY MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0575

FRIDAY
MAY 14, 1999
VOL. 46 NO. 57

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL TURKEY MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

DOMESTIC MARKET HIGHLIGHTS



The trade sentiment for hens and 16-24 lb. toms continued to be steady to firm. Offerings of whole birds limited for prompt deliveries and light to moderate for forward sales. Demand for whole birds mixed and ranged from light to good with buyers purchasing timetables widely varied. Heavy trading of whole birds in the East some with price ceilings for toms at 76 cents for August and 78 cents for September. Firm priced trading for October at 72 cents on hens and 75 cents on toms. Trading light to moderate for parts, meats, and rib breast. Demand moderate and improved.

EXPORT MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

Trading heavy. Demand moderate with interest continuing to center on frozen thigh meat, drums, and 15-20 % mechanical separated turkey going to Asia and Mexico.

WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS) **MAY 13, 1999**

CURRENT SHIPMENTS 2/					FORWARD SHIPMENTS 6/			OPEN COMMITMENTS 7/	
	OFFERS	SALES	WTD AVG	VOLUME (000)	WTD AVG	VOLUME (000)	DEL. PER	VOLUME (000)	DEL. PER
8-16 LB HENS									
EASTERN REGION 3/	65-66	-	-	-	70.25	200	-	880	SEP
CENTRAL REGION 4/	65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	65-66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16-24 LB TOMS									
EASTERN REGION 3/	66	-	-	-	-	-	-	720	SEP
CENTRAL REGION 4/	66-69	69	69.00	15	-	-	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS, FROZEN 1/, CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS) **MAY 14, 1999**

CURRENT SHIPMENTS 2/					FORWARD SHIPMENTS 6/			OPEN COMMITMENTS 7/	
	OFFERS	SALES	WTD AVG	VOLUME (000)	WTD AVG	VOLUME (000)	DEL. PER	VOLUME (000)	DEL. PER
8-16 LB HENS									
EASTERN REGION 3/	65-66	-	-	-	71.25	840	OCT	-	-
CENTRAL REGION 4/	65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	65-66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16-24 LB TOMS									
EASTERN REGION 3/	66-66.5	-	-	-	74.25	840	OCT	1600	SEP-AUG
CENTRAL REGION 4/	65.5-68	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WESTERN REGION 5/	66-66.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

1/ May include product stored at temperatures in range of 1 to 25 degrees F. 2/ Includes product priced for shipment within 14 days.

3/ Includes product with 3 percent broth basting. 4/ Includes product with 3-6 percent broth basting. 5/ Includes products with 6 percent broth basting. 6/ Includes product committed for pricing during the previous 24 hours but shipment in more than 14 days from date of commitment. 7/ Includes product committed during previous 24 hours at prices to be determined at later date.

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES FOR WHOLE YOUNG TURKEYS, FROZEN CONSUMER SIZES, COMMODITY PACK OR EQUIVALENT, US GRADE A, CENTS PER LB, DELIVERED (MINIMUM 10,000 LB LOTS)

WEEK OF MAY 14, 1999	CURRENT WEEK	LAST WEEK	SAME WEEK YEAR AGO
8-16 LB HENS			
EASTERN REGION	65.50 **	65.40 **	58.50 **
CENTRAL REGION	65.00 **	64.50	57.00 **
WESTERN REGION	65.00	65.40 **	58.50
16-24 LB TOMS			
EASTERN REGION	66.05 **	65.70 **	57.00 **
CENTRAL REGION	69.00	65.00	53.50
WESTERN REGION	66.00	65.80 **	58.50

**BASED ON OFFERS

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED TURKEY,
DELIVERED TO RETAILERS**

	<u>RANGE</u>
FRESH TURKEYS Y HENS 8-16#	80-88
FRESH TURKEYS Y TOMS 14-24#	81-88
FROZEN TURKEYS Y HENS 8-16#	70-71
FROZEN TURKEYS Y TOMS 14-24#	70-72
FROZEN TURKEYS Y TOMS 24-28#	76-78

**SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED TURKEY
DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

	<u>RANGE</u>
TURKEYS Y HENS	82-89
TURKEYS Y TOMS UNDER 22#	79-89
TURKEYS Y TOMS 22-24#	79-89
TURKEYS Y TOMS 24-26#	82-89
TURKEYS Y TOMS 26 LBS & OVER	88-103

<u>FRESH TURKEYS WITH TIMERS OR EQUIVALENT</u>	U.S. GRADE A, DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, EASTERN REGION, CENTS PER POUND, WEEK OF 17-MAY-99			
	<u>(8-16#)</u>		<u>(16-24#)</u>	
	<u>HENS</u>	<u>LBS</u>	<u>TOMS</u>	<u>LBS</u>
	<u>PRICE</u>	<u>(000)</u>	<u>PRICE</u>	<u>(000)</u>
SALES (PROMOTIONS INCLUDED)	69.33	240		
SALES (PROMOTIONS NOT INCLUDED)	68.00	80		
SALES (PROMOTIONS ONLY)	70.00	160		
SALES (PRICE TO BE DETERMINED)		40		20

**USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS,
POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES**

Washington, DC	Voice	(202)720-6911	Grover T. Hunter (Chief)
	Fax	(202)720-2403	
Atlanta, GA	Voice	(404)562-5850	Johnny Freeman (Officer-In-Charge)
	Fax	(404)562-5875	
	Recorded	(404)562-5856	
Jackson, MS	Voice	(601)965-4662	Gary Brown (Officer-In-Charge)
	Fax	(601)965-4661	
Des Moines, IA	Voice	(515)284-4471	Mary L. Adkins (Officer-In-Charge)
	Fax	(515)284-4468	
	Recorded	(515)284-4545	
Bell, CA	Voice	(323)269-4154	Jim Derby (Officer-In-Charge)
	Fax	(323)269-5926	
	Recorded	(323)260-4676	

NUMBER OF TURKEYS SLTRD IN FEDERALLY INSP PLANTS

BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS WEEK ENDING 01-May-99
(PRELIMINARY) (RELEASED 12:00 NOON CENTRAL TIME)

	<u>---YOUNG TURKEYS---</u>			<u>FRYER</u>	<u>OLD</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>TKY</u>
	<u>THOUSAND</u>	<u>PW</u>	<u>AVG</u>	<u>RSTR</u>	<u>BAND</u>		<u>AVG</u>
	<u>HEAD</u>	<u>% CHG</u>	<u>WT</u>	<u>---THOUSAND HEAD---</u>			<u>WT</u>
N EAST	1,715	144	21.34	NONE	NONE	1,715	21.34
S ATL	785	-56	30.52	(A)	(A)	799	30.48
N CENT	1,918	-18	26.73	(A)	(A)	1,936	26.71
S CENT	589	-48	19.78	NONE	NONE	589	19.78
WEST	244	-27	27.71	(A)	(A)	252	27.60
U.S.TOTAL	5,251(B)	-17	24.80	0	40	5,291	24.81
TO DATE							
1999	79,097(B)			0	554	79,651	
TO DATE							
1998	86,407(B)			8	642	87,057	

(A) Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

(B) Number of young banded breeder turks included: for the week 2,000 for the year 285,000; last year to date 322,000.

LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED WEEK ENDING 01-May-99

	<u>FRYER- ROASTERS</u>	<u>YOUNG TURKEYS</u>	<u>OLD BANDED</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
	<u>THOUSANDS</u>			
HEAD	0	5,251	40	5,291
AVGWT	0.00	24.80	25.88	24.81
LAST WEEK	0	6,293	45	6,338
SAME WEEK YR AGO	0	4,675	47	4,722
AVGWT	0.00	26.14(A)	23.72	26.12
TO-DATE/1999	0	79,097(A)	554	79,651
TO-DATE/1998	8	86,407(A)	642	87,057

(A) Includes 285,000 young banded breeders in 1999 and 322,000 in 1998.

CALIFORNIA TURKEY SLTR UNDER FED. INSP 01-May-99

FRYER/ROASTER 0, TO DATE 0; YOUNG 244 HD, 6,762 LBS,
TO DATE 4,519 HD, 107,886 LBS; OLD 8 HD, TO DATE 88 HD;
TOTAL 252 HD, TO DATE 4,607 HD.

TURKEY MOVEMENT TREND

(IN THOUSAND POUNDS) SLAUGHTER-CERTIFIED RTC TURKEYS

MARCH	412,534 *
APRIL 1-30, 1999	444,541 *
To date 1999	1,631,043 *
To date 1998	1,751,478 *

* PRELIMINARY

NATIONAL YOUNG TURKEY PARTS AND BULK MEAT, FROZEN (UNLESS SPECIFIED), CENTS PER LB., DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, PART AND FULL TRUCKLOTS AS OF 13 MAY 1999.

Trade sentiment on tom drums mixed ranging from steady at best to instances firm with some sellers reluctant to sell at current price levels. Undertone at least steady on institutional breasts and steady to fully steady on 4-8 lb. sizes. Domestic demand light on bulk parts, light to fair mostly light on bulk meats with tom breast meat the most active, rib breasts light to fair. For domestic: open priced Grade A 4-8 lb. breasts (11 loads) and plant grade 4-8 lb. breasts (14 loads) with 96 July and 97 August delivered price ceilings, Grade A (part loads) 10-12 lb. 139 and 14-16 lb. 159, fresh destrapped tenders (part load) 155 cents.

DOMESTIC TRADING	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A 2/		T	97.00	40
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A—FRESH 2/	125.00-141.00		128.81	315
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS PLANT GRADE 2/		T	91.00	40
DRUMSTICKS, TOM	17.00		17.00	5
DRUMSTICKS, TOM—FRESH				
DRUMSTICKS, HEN		W	18.00	80
WINGS, FULL-CUT, TOM	21.50-23.00		21.70	23
WINGS, FULL-CUT, HEN		T	23.00	20
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM				
WINGS, V-TYPE, HEN		W	40.00	40
NECKS, TOM	15.50		15.50	20
NECKS, HEN	16.00		16.00	9
BREASTS, B/S, TOM 3/	178.00		178.00	40
BREASTS, B/S, TOM—FRESH 3/	187.00		187.00	40
THIGH MEAT	45.00		45.00	5
THIGH MEAT—FRESH		F	43.00	40
BREAST TRIM MEAT		W	109.00	40
SCAPULA MEAT		W	98.00	20
TENDERLOINS		T	138.00	40
DESTRAPPED TENDERS				
WING MEAT WITH SKIN		W	68.00	44
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/		W	13.00	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED—FRESH 4/		W	14.60	100
EXPORT TRADING				
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	24.00		24.00	80
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS		R	22.50	20
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM	18.50		18.50	52
TAILS				
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/				
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	50.00		50.00	208

1/ CODES FOR LAST SIGNIFICANT TRADE (L.S.T.): M=MONDAY T=TUESDAY W=WEDNESDAY R=THURSDAY F=FRIDAY

2/ Breasts are bagged; rib, back, and wing meat included; and basted. 3/ Without tenderloins. 4/ Product contains 15-20% fat with skin added.

NATIONAL YOUNG TURKEY PARTS AND BULK MEAT, FROZEN (UNLESS SPECIFIED), CENTS PER LB., DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, PART AND FULL TRUCKLOTS AS OF 14 MAY 1999.

The market continues strong on thigh meat due mostly to exports, however, increased domestic inquiry is noted on both fresh and frozen. Domestic and export market on tom drums continues to improve with some sellers more confident than others, light to fair on tom necks, full-cut wings light. Market improved on tom breast meat to steady to fully steady and wing meat at least steady. Fresh destrapped tenders (part load) 152 and open priced (4 loads) June shipments, 10-12 lb. breasts (part loads): Grade A 135, plant grade 125 cents delivered. For export (spot loads): thigh trim 32, scapula 99, tom breast meat 178 cents delivered.

DOMESTIC TRADING	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)	WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICE	WEEKLY VOLUME (000)
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A 2/		T	97.00	40	97.00	40
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS GRADE A—FRESH 2/		R	128.81	315	128.81	315
BREASTS, 4-8 LBS PLANT GRADE 2/		T	91.00	40	91.00	40
DRUMSTICKS, TOM	14.00-17.00		15.56	224	15.66	572
DRUMSTICKS, TOM—FRESH						
DRUMSTICKS, HEN		W	18.00	80	18.00	100
WINGS, FULL-CUT, TOM	21.50-24.00		22.74	47	22.59	248
WINGS, FULL-CUT, HEN		T	23.00	20	23.00	20
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM						
WINGS, V-TYPE, HEN	40.00		40.00	80	40.00	120
NECKS, TOM	14.00-16.00		15.81	32	15.33	172
NECKS, HEN		R	16.00	9	16.57	21
BREASTS, B/S, TOM 3/	171.00-177.00		174.33	120	175.33	180
BREASTS, B/S, TOM—FRESH 3/	187.00-188.00		187.18	220	187.25	472
THIGH MEAT	45.00-48.00		46.00	64	45.93	69
THIGH MEAT—FRESH	45.00-47.00		45.91	46	45.91	46
BREAST TRIM MEAT	108.00-112.00		110.24	102	108.59	182
SCAPULA MEAT	93.00-98.00		95.14	35	96.18	55
TENDERLOINS	139.00		139.00	40	138.50	80
DESTRAPPED TENDERS						
WING MEAT WITH SKIN	68.00		68.00	13	68.00	57
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/	13.00-15.00		14.00	120	13.75	160
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED—FRESH 4/	16.00-17.00		16.11	90	15.80	490
EXPORT TRADING						
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	14.00-15.50		14.79	376	16.86	744
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS	22.50		22.50	30	22.50	30
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM		R	18.50	52	18.94	416
TAILS	17.00		17.00	40	17.00	40
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/	13.50-14.00		13.67	608	13.67	608
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	45.00-50.00		46.45	628	45.77	1,972

1/ CODES FOR LAST SIGNIFICANT TRADE (L.S.T.): M=MONDAY T=TUESDAY W=WEDNESDAY R=THURSDAY F=FRIDAY

2/ Breasts are bagged; rib, back, and wing meat included; and basted. 3/ Without tenderloins. 4/ Product contains 15-20% fat with skin added.